

**Virginia Board of Licensed Professional Counselors,  
Marriage and Family Therapists, and  
Substance Abuse Professionals**

**MINUTES**

**November 19, 1999**

**TIME AND PLACE:** The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. in Conference Room 1 of the Department of Health Professions, 6606 W. Broad Street.

**PRESIDING:** Susan D. Leone, Ed.D., Chairman of the Board presided.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Timothy E. Clinton, Ed.D.  
Maurice Graham, D.Min.  
Ruth A. Hancock  
Rosemarie S. Hughes, Ph.D.  
Howard R. King, Jr., Ph.D.  
Jack, Knapp, D.D.  
Susan D. Leone, Ed.D.  
Janice F. McMillan, Ph.D.  
Howard O. Protinsky, Ph.D.  
Lynnette Lewis Shadoan  
J. Steve Strosnider

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Eric T. Scalise

**STAFF PRESENT:** Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director  
Janet Delorme, Deputy Executive Director  
Joyce Williams, Administrative Assistant  
Elaine Yeatts, Regulatory Boards Administrator

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Thomas Goddard, Associate Professor, Northern Virginia Community College  
Miriam Kline, Member, Virginia Association of Clinical Counselors and Richmond Association of Clinical Counselors (VACC) (RACC)  
Downey Miller, President Elect, Virginia Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (VAADAC)  
Robert Storer, Member, Virginia Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (VAADAC)

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mr. Goddard thanked the Regulatory Committee for the work it has done on the Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors.

Ms. Kline spoke to the "grandfathering" for Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners. She addressed VACC's concern

that the three-year window of time to receive the competencies was too long. Ms. Kline also addressed the issue of to require a master's degree for individuals to practice independently. It was felt that this does not protect the public.

Ms. Miller stated that VAADAC is very pleased with the results of the Regulatory Committee meeting held on November 18, 1999 and the Association is very happy with the relationship it has had with this Board over the past year.

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of August 27, 1999 were approved.

**CHAIR:**

Dr. Leone announced the reappointment of Board members Dr. Hughes and Mr. Scalise.

Dr. Leone wrote a letter to the Governor recommending Mr. Kelly to the Board of Health Professions (BHP). Dr. Leone followed up with a telephone call to the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Office. She was advised that the letter had been sent to the Governor. The Secretary's office could not advise whether Mr. Kelly had been appointed, but stated that there will be an appointment from this Board to the Board of Health Professions in the near future.

**RETREAT:**

Ms. Williams gave three sites for Board consideration for holding the Board's May 3-5, 2000 retreat. The Board voted unanimously to hold the retreat at the Virginia Beach Resort Hotel and Conference Center.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

Ms. Brown reported that all proposals for the Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners' examination will have to be in by November 22, 1999. The RFP Committee will then evaluate the proposals.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Regulatory Review**

Ms. Delorme reported that the Regulatory Committee has been identifying regulatory requirements to make the regulations under the Board consistent and, therefore, recommended that the following requirements remain in the Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors:

- The protection of the public health, safety, and welfare and the best of the interest of the public shall be the primary guide in determining the appropriate professional conduct of all persons whose activities are regulated by the board.

- Practice in a manner that is in the best interest and does not endanger the public health, safety, or welfare.

Ms. Delorme reported that the Regulatory Committee recommended that the Regulations Governing the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy require that automatic acceptance of programs approved by CACREP be limited to those programs specific to marriage and family therapy. Ms. Yeatts suggested that the language referencing related programs be modified to read "discipline related to the practice of marriage and family therapy". The definition of CACREP would also be changed to state this specificity.

Ms. Delorme reported that the Regulatory Committee recommended that the Regulations Governing the Practice of Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners change the time limit for renewal without reapplication from four years to one year.

Dr. Hughes reported on the Summary of Comments and the Board's responses to the proposed Regulations Governing the Practice of Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners.

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt the final Regulations Governing the Certification of Substance Abuse Counselors as amended. The motion passed unanimously (Attachment A).

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt final Regulations Governing the Practice of Marriage and Family Therapy as amended. The motion passed unanimously (Attachment B).

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt the final Regulations Governing the Practice of Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners as amended. The motion passed unanimously (Attachment C).

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt the Summary of Comments and responses to the proposed Regulations Governing the Practice of Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioners (Attachment D).

Ms. Delorme gave an update on the status of regulatory review. Ms. Delorme announced that the three sets of regulations just adopted will be in effect on January 19, 2000. The final fee changes adopted May 14, 1999 will be published

on November 22, 1999. A public hearing will held on fee changes on January 6, 2000. On November 18, 1999 a public hearing was held on the proposed Regulations Governing the Practice of Professional Counseling. These regulations and the fee changes to all regulations will be in effect on April 12, 2000. No comments were offered.

There was discussion about the Regulatory Committee's draft proposal to the education requirements for Certified Substance Abuse Counselors. The Board returned the draft to the Committee for additional work.

Dr. Hughes recommended that the Board vote on each option separately for inclusion in the PreNoira for the Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner "grandfathering."

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt Option One, which offers a one-year window, and requires a CSAC with a 40-hour master's degree in human services and five years of experience in substance abuse treatment. The motion was passed by a majority (10) with one abstention (Dr. McMillan).

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt Option Two, which offers a three-year window, and requires a CSAC with a bachelor's degree and 10 years of experience in substance abuse treatment. The motion was passed by a majority (six), two not approved (Dr. McMillan and Mr. Strosnider), and three abstentions (Dr. Clinton, Dr. Graham and Dr. Hughes).

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt Option Three, which offers a one-year window, and requires a CSAC with 20 years of experience of experience in substance abuse treatment and five years supervisory experience. The motion passed with a majority (seven), two not approved (Dr. Strosnider and Dr. McMillan), and two abstentions (Dr. Clinton and Dr. Graham).

A motion was made by Dr. Hughes that the Board adopt the PreNOIRA for the Licensed Substance Abuse Treatment Practitioner "grandfathering. The motion passed with a majority (10) and one not approved (Mr. Strosnider) (Attachment E).

Dr. Hughes reminded the Committee chairs to mail comments regarding the sections of table comparing all the regulations that pertain to their committees back to the Regulatory Committee by January 15.

### **Discipline Committee**

Mr. Strosnider reported that the Board has two cases at Board level. He further reported that four informal conferences are scheduled to be held and one reinstatement hearing was held since the last meeting.

### **Examination Committee**

The Examination Committee will follow up on the report that the National Board for Certified Counselors presented at the Board's last meeting. Dr. Graham requested that the Board members send any comments or questions to the Examination Committee. Dr. Graham also invited associations to send any comments or questions.

### **Credentials Committee**

Dr. King reported on the Informal Conference held by the Credentials Committee as well as the credentials reviewed by the Committee on November 18, 1999 (Attachment F).

### **Public Relations Committee**

Dr. Leone reported that the Board's newsletter will be published soon.

## **LEGISLATION:**

Dr. Knapp announced that VACC has submitted the Board's name change for legislative action.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

Dr. Graham reported that he attended the Association of Marital and Family Therapy Regulatory Boards' (AMFTRB) conference held on October 6 and 7, 1999. Dr. Graham, as Chair of AMFTRB's ethics Committee, reported that this Committee discussed the concern of internet therapy across the states. Some states have set regulations, which dictate internet treatment perimeters. Another concern was persons, such as those who work for HMO's, who make decisions that affect how an individual's health care is delivered. Some states are moving towards requiring a license for anyone who make decisions that directly or indirectly impact an individual's health. There is a National Practitioner Data Bank in Washington, D.C. through the Department of Health and Human Services. This service can be used to check on disciplinary actions taken on state or federal licensees.

Mr. Kelly reported that he attended the Health Practitioners' Intervention Program conference held on September 16-18, 1999. The conference reviewed what has happened since the beginning of the program over a year ago. Mr. Kelly reported that the numbers of individuals who have entered the program since its inception were impressive.

Mr. Kelly reported on the Health Professions' Issues Forum. He noted that the Board of Health Professions endorsed this Board's name change. Setting up separate licensure Boards for Chiropractors and Physical Therapists was discussed. The Assistant Speech Therapists had requested their own Board, which was not recommended by BHP.

Dr. Leone attended the CLEAR conference. She reported that this was an excellent conference for staff. Dr. Leone reported that she gave a presentation at the new member's orientation.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

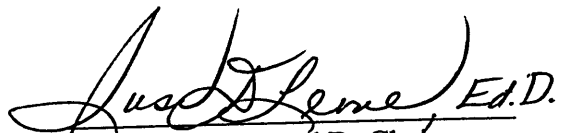
Mr. Storer expressed concern that if the education for the Certified Substance Abuse Counselor credential were raised to require a bachelor's degree, the work that's being doing by entry level Certified Substance Abuse Counselors would be done by unqualified untrained people, because person's who hold a bachelor's degree will not be working in entry level jobs. He felt that this would increase the danger to the public.

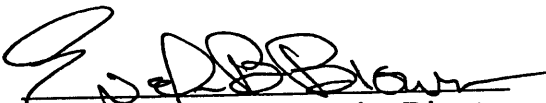
Ms. Miller also expressed concern that a bachelor's degree would be required for Certified Substance Abuse Counselors. Ms. Miller also indicated that VAADAC supports a middle tier of certification.

Mr. Goddard also expressed concern that a bachelor's degree would be required for Certified Substance Abuse Counselors

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

  
Susan D. Leone, Ed.D. Chair

  
Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director